LOG OF MEETING DIRECTORATE FOR EPIDEMIOLOGY

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SUBJECT: Range and Oven Fires Meeting

DATE

: September 7, 1994

PLACE

: U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission

4330 East West Highway, Room 715, Bethesda, MD

LOG OF ENTRY SOURCE: Sheila Kelly, EPHA

DATE OF ENTRY:

September 8, 1994

COMMISSION REPRESENTATIVES:

Ron Jordan, ES

Sheila Kelly, EPHA

Kimberly Long, EPHA

Dennis McCroskrie, ES

Carolyn Meiers, EPHF

Mai Ngo, ESEE

Chuck Smith, ECON

Linda Smith, EPHA

NON-COMMISSION REPRESENTATIVES:

Donald Grob, Underwriters Laboratories (UL)
Charles Samuels, Association of Home Appliance Manufacturers (AHAM)
Brooke Stouffer, AHAM
Jack Weizeorick, AHAM
Michael Kleine, Mintz, Levin, et al.

SUMMARY OF MEETING:

In an effort to cooperate and share information with industry, CPSC staff met with UL and AHAM to discuss Commission project goals and activities to reduce residential fire loss associated with electric and gas ranges and ovens.

Staff presented annual fire loss estimates which show more injuries involved with kitchen range/oven fires than any other consumer product associated with fires under CPSC jurisdiction. Staff also discussed anticipated plans for testing and advised the group that CPSC field investigators will begin data collection on October 1, 1994, (Fiscal Year 1995).

Planned activities include the following: 1) collect fire data to determine detailed causes, 2) contract an outside engineering firm to measure pertinent variables in food fires during imminent fire conditions and early stages of fires, followed by identification of technology capable of reducing cooking fires, and 3) develop a market report.

CPSC staff indicated that it would be useful to initiate dialogue with manufacturers to exchange information and receive their suggestions for studying the cooking fire issue.

The investigation guideline to be used for data collection was also discussed. AHAM agreed to forward their additional comments by the end of the week. They also agreed to help arrange a meeting of the major range/oven manufacturers with CPSC staff. They will contact us next week with a schedule for the next meeting.

The proposed agenda for a meeting with the manufacturers is attached.

Attachment